

Attorney Docket No. 40146/20902 (1071X)

REMARKS

Claims 20, 21 and 23 have been amended. Claims 3-6, 12, 13, 15-18, 24-27 and 36 have been canceled. No new matter has been added. Thus, claims 1, 2, 7-11, 14, 19-23, 28-35 and 37 are now pending in the present application.

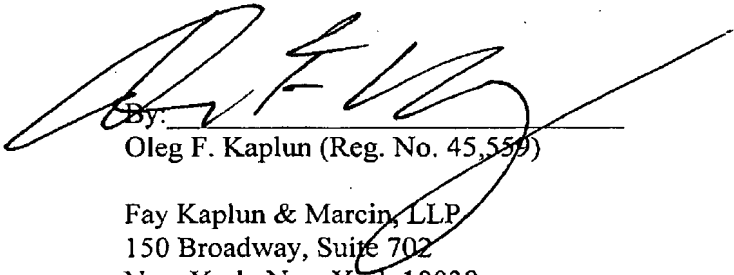
Claims 20-23 and 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. As the Examiner will ascertain, claims 20, 21 and 23 have been amended to address this rejection. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests that the 112, second paragraph, rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 2, 7 and 8 are provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-12, 42-53 of copending U. S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/759,566. In view of the Terminal Disclaimer submitted herewith, Applicant respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the amendments and the remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims are allowable. All issues raised by the Examiner having been addressed, an early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: _____
Oleg F. Kaplun (Reg. No. 45,559)

Fay Kaplun & Marcin, LLP
150 Broadway, Suite 702
New York, New York 10038
Tel: (212) 619-6000
Fax: (212) 619-0276